

G
7
1908.8

PLUCK! PUSH! PROGRESS!

THE
**SCOTT GOVERNMENT'S
RECORD**

An Outline of Saskatchewan Liberalism and Progress

THE PEOPLE'S PREMIER

ROADS AND
BRIDGES

BETTER SCHOOLS

INCREASED
REVENUES

LABOR
PROTECTION

AID TO
AGRICULTURE

FREE HIGH
SCHOOLS

STEEL BRIDGES



HON. WALTER SCOTT

BRANCH
RAILWAYS

PUBLIC
TELEPHONES

PURE ELECTIONS

SEED GRAIN

FREE SCHOOL
BOOKS

BUSINESS
METHODS

PUBLIC
INSTITUTIONS

SCOTT, SANITY AND SUCCESS

THE SCOTT GOVERNMENT IS PLEDGED TO RAPID RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT

Table of Contents

	Page
1. Introductory	5
2. Liberal Convention of 1905	6
3. Every Pledge Kept	6
4. Firebrands and Falsifiers	7
5. Three Years of Slander	7
6. McInnis, the Perjured Libeller	8
7. Haultain Sinks Deeper	10
8. Manly Stand of Premier Scott	12
9. The Land Issue	13
10. Three Years Provincial Housekeeping	14
11. Constructive Legislation	15
12. Provincial Finances	16
13. Expending Public Money	20
14. Public Improvements	21
15. Bridge Construction	22
16. Saskatchewan River Bridges	24
17. Water Supply	24
18. Public Institutions and Buildings	25
19. Legislative and Departmental Buildings	26
20. Rural Municipalities	27
21. Telephones	27
22. Our Agricultural Interests	29
23. Aids to Agriculture	29
24. Farmers' Institutes, etc	31
25. An Agricultural College	32
26. Seed Grain	32
27. Public Health	33
28. Schools and Education	34
29. Free Text Books	35
30. Higher Education	36
31. Social and Moral Reform	37
32. Election Purity	38
33. Redistribution	40
34. Labor Interests	41
35. Equalizing Taxation	42
36. The Elevator Question	43
37. A Summary	45

Introductory

The Province of Saskatchewan has been in existence some three years. As a people our hopes are beginning to be realized. The past has witnessed a wonderful progress and development. Under Liberal rule thousands upon thousands of homeseekers are settling upon our broad fertile prairies. The heart of the West is throbbing with hope of the future. What shall that future be? The possibilities are beyond our imagination. We have a country capable of sustaining a population of millions of happy people. The fertile soil of our broad valleys and expansive prairies is the envy of the world. To-day the teeming populations of Great Britain, the United States and the countries of Europe are looking towards Saskatchewan as their future home. This being the case it is important that nothing should be done to retard development, to check progress, to blight the era of prosperity which has flourished under Liberal Governments at Ottawa and Regina.

Three years ago Hon. Walter Scott was called upon to form the first Government for the new Province. The elections followed and he was endorsed by an overwhelming vote of the people. The real work of administration was then taken up. There have been three sessions of the Legislative Assembly. And in looking back upon the record of the past three years Mr. Scott is able to point with pride to a vast amount of useful legislation placed upon our statute books. He has been laying the foundations of our provincial institutions. Moreover, measures of far reaching importance have been moulded into law. Governmental machinery has been organized and perfected. Business methods have been adopted in handling millions of dollars of public money. Never again in such a short period will any Government in the province of Saskatchewan be called upon to undertake so much useful and important work. And now Mr. Scott and his colleagues appeal to the electors of the province for their endorsement. It is the duty of every true citizen who has the interests of Saskatchewan at heart to read the record of our political development. The following outlines have been prepared with this object in view and if it serves to enlighten the electors on the public affairs of the Province it will have fulfilled its mission.

SASKATCHEWAN'S POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

THE GREAT LIBERAL CONVENTION OF 1905.

Liberals everywhere throughout the Province will remember the famous convention of 1905. It assembled just two weeks prior to the establishment of Saskatchewan. Liberalism was aroused. The Tories had thrown down the gauntlet for party lines at the Moose Jaw Convention. Haultain and his Tory organs had for months been denouncing the terms of the Autonomy Acts. Liberals were aware that the good old Conservative machine was being oiled and made ready for our first political battle. So the call was sent out and over 400 delegates representing the cause of Liberalism in every corner of the province assembled at Regina prepared to elect a leader, lay down a platform and then go forth to the political battle that was shortly to follow.

In choosing a leader for the Provincial Liberal Party the whole gathering was of one mind. Unbounded enthusiasm prevailed and cheer upon cheer rent the air when the name of Walter Scott was proposed. For years he had been successfully fighting the battles of Western Canada at Ottawa. Through his keen attention to public business, his energy, his fearlessness and his undoubted ability, he had acquired a national reputation and was universally looked upon as one of Canada's coming statesmen. Is it any wonder then that the convention naturally turned to him and selected him as leader? He had not been born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Coming from the farm he was early compelled to fight his own battles. Step by step he had gradually climbed up the ladder of Success and, knowing this, every Liberal in the Province believed that with Scott as leader the cause of Liberalism in Saskatchewan would triumph. In this they were not mistaken. The Liberal candidates swept the Province.

EVERY PLEDGE KEPT.

Space will not permit the publication of the platform adopted at the convention. It included some 12 planks and covered the whole range of practical politics. It set forth the policy which the Liberal party as a whole be-

lieved should be adopted for the good government of Saskatchewan. Every plank of the platform was fully discussed in open convention and finally approved unanimously. Since then the Scott Government has been in office three years and there is not a single plank in the platform of the party that has not been lived up to. Is not that a record to be proud of? It is a record that has been equalled by but few Governments in Canada or elsewhere. There has been no broken promise. Every pledge which the Hon. Walter Scott made to the people of the province during the first provincial campaign stands fulfilled. Throughout the length and breadth of Saskatchewan he is known as a man of his word. Is not that the stamp of a man to be entrusted with the reins of office?

FIREBRANDS AND FALSIFIERS TURNED LOOSE.

In September, 1905, the first provincial campaign started. Never before had Canada witnessed such a fierce political battle. From the very outset Haultain and the Conservative press resorted to every conceivable means of misrepresentation, slander and falsehood. The air was full of rumour and roorbacks. The Tory press throughout the West daily poured out its libels. From every platform Conservative speakers endeavored to incite public passion and prejudice. Scott was branded as a traitor and an arch conspirator. The Tories shouted that the Liberal party had betrayed Saskatchewan and had sold it for a mess of pottage. The Government was in league with the devil. The country was going to ruin. Haultain was the only heaven-born statesman. He was proclaimed to have a sort of Divine Right to rule over the people. Through it all Mr. Scott stood his ground firmly. He fought a brave, manly, straight-forward battle. He met falsehood with truth, and slander with fact. And when the time came the people rose in their might and gave their verdict. Mr. Scott and his candidates triumphantly headed the polls.

THREE YEARS OF SLANDEROUS INSINUATION.

Lord Cromer in a recent speech said: "We all know that the standard of veracity in the country sinks to its lowest point during periods of electoral excitement."—A general human tendency may partially excuse the departures from truth and fact made by Mr. F. W. G. Haultain and his followers during and following Saskatchewan's first Provincial election contest. That such departures were not few and were not trivial is well known now by all. Here is a sample statement made on January 10, 1906, by Mr. Haultain: "Did not the members of the Government have knowledge of the 'heelers and ruffians and blackguards who came into the Province; who 'haunted their Committee rooms; who travelled with them on trains; do they not know their character? Was there an election crook from any part

"of the Dominion who was not present? Whom did I find gathered at "Kinistino? Senator T. O. Davis, Dr. Cash, M.P., your Commissioner of "Education, Mr. Calder, Thos. MacNutt, M.L.A., and six or eight others worse than the first." And he might have added, Hon. F. W. G. Haultain. Had he a better right to be there than those named? Mr. Haultain was later asked by Mr. Scott on the floor of the Assembly to make good his infamous accusation by giving the name of a single Liberal Agent to whom the terms heeler, ruffian and blackguard were applicable or the name of a single election crook brought into the Province by the Liberal Party. Mr. Haultain by his absolute and abject failure to give a single name confessed that his words had been merely those of slander and scandal without basis in fact.

On November 27th, 1905, in an "Address to the Electorate" Mr. Haultain declared that he had in his possession "Ample proof that an understanding exists" between Premier Scott and Archbishop Langevin to the effect that if elected the Government would not maintain the national school system but would grant improper privileges to Roman Catholics. Mr. Scott at once branded the accusation as false. Archbishop Langevin at once said: "There is absolutely not a word of truth in Mr. Haultain's statement. I never met Mr. Scott nor had I an understanding with him of any kind." But the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Mr. Scott to-day can point to three years' administration of the school system as the complete contradiction of Mr. Haultain's boasted "Ample proof." Where was his proof? He had none. He had no excuse for the charge and the charge was pure and sheer slander.

In the same "Address" Mr. Haultain inserted an anonymous circular letter on the school question and by falsely attaching these words—" (Sgd) "Adelard Langevin, Archbishop"—to the circular he made it seem to be a "mandement" or order by the Roman Catholic Archbishop to all Roman Catholics in Saskatchewan to vote against Haultain candidates. Referring to this action Archbishop Langevin has said: "I issued no such letter or instructions, nor did I sign any such letter, nor was any letter read in the churches. The use made by Mr. Haultain of the memorandum in question was an outrage and most dishonorable. In no case did I give a command "to vote against him." The fact is, therefore, that in attaching the Archbishop's name to the circular Mr. Haultain performed a deed akin to forgery. In this instance he was guilty of falsity in act, word and intent.

McINNIS, THE PERJURED LIBELLER.

Six days prior to polling day in 1905 Mr. Haultain and Mr. J. K. McInnis launched a heinous charge of personal corruption against Premier Scott in the form of an affidavit sworn to by McInnis. The charge was that the Premier on or about October 17th offered McInnis a bribe of \$10,000 for his

newspaper's support in the campaign. Note well the dates. Time of alleged offer—October 17th. Date of pretended exposure—December 7th. Shrewdly and cruelly planned to give time for the monstrous slander to reach all parts of the Province but not time to permit of trial and establishment of the truth before election day. Mr. Scott, however, at once caused the arrest of McInnis which was the first step towards obtaining a trial. Mr. Haultain, McInnis and their shouters, big and little, sneered and said that the Premier was bluffing for election purposes and that after election day the action would be dropped. Mr. Scott publicly declared that: "I shall completely clear myself of this charge or permanently retire from public life. Once election day is past my first duty will be to clear up this infamous charge and to prove that this man McInnis is the most contemptible and dirty kind of hypocritical ingrate, traitor and libeller who lives in Regina." Mr. Scott fulfilled each detail and syllable of the promise in this matter to the last minute letter. The trial held at Regina on March 1-3, 1906, was an event. Before Supreme Court Justice Newlands and a jury composed of Hugh Armour (foreman), E. Brown, Malcolm King, E. Von Ferber, A. D. Jones and C. F. Smith, the charge was fully and fairly tried. Unanimously and emphatically the jury's verdict was that McInnis was a doubly guilty slanderer and libeller and he left the Court a thing for the finger of shame and scorn to point at.

These instances of slanderous charges on the part of Hon. F. W. G. Haultain and his party are simply illustrations of the venomous dishonesty of the campaign which the Saskatchewan Liberal Party had to meet. The full record of all the falsehoods circulated would fill a book. There was the assertion that "71 separate school applications had been filed and would be granted." At the time not one such application was on file and only four such have been received in the intervening three years. There was the canard about Mr. Scott secretly visiting Archbishop Langevin in St. Boniface. Many communities were led to believe that victory for Scott would lead to the erection of a separate school upon every quarter section, and that the Province would be over-run with French schools, German schools, Galician schools, Icelandic schools, Jewish schools, Swedish schools, Hungarian schools, Presbyterian schools, Methodist schools, Christian Science schools, Anglican schools, and schools of every conceivable brand and shade and nationality. These communities now know how foolish were the cries, and how wicked it was to deceive and disturb them by such false stories. The Liberal victory was followed by no noticeable change in school administration. The happy conditions which had prevailed under the School Ordinances during the preceding decade continue to exist. Why not? The law is the same. The principles governing its administration are the same.

Face to face in the Assembly in the last session the Premier challenged

Mr. Haultain to attempt to support the pleas and cries and charges he made use of in 1905 by any item of the Government's conduct in relation to schools. Challenged thus directly Hon. F. W. G. Haultain was dumb. He had tauntingly declared that in the general conduct of business the Government had been tried and found wanting. Answering the taunt Mr. Scott said in part: "The leader of the Opposition congratulated me yesterday on my return and I thank him. But he proceeded to say that I returned to changed conditions and that in the meantime the Government had been on trial. Conditions have changed. We have been on trial. We have been tried on the very issue that he himself defined—the issue of schools. (Cheers). With what result? He knows that we have absolutely redeemed every pledge and proved every promise. (Cheers). Yes, conditions have changed. He also has been on trial and the verdict upon him is that the charges he urged and the suspicions he aroused against us were unjust and unwarranted. He is proved to have tried to plunge this fair new Province into endless sectarian strife and dissension without any just cause or real reason. I tell my hon. friend that these are the verdicts of this Province upon him and upon me after two years trial. (Prolonged cheers).

HAULTAIN SINKS DEEPER INTO THE MIRE.

Instead of mending his ways, Mr. Haultain has since 1905 gone from bad to worse. When the Province was threatened with calamity by coal famine in the Winter 1906-7 the Government made every possible effort to bring relief. Early in October Mr. Scott was wiring and writing to the Ottawa Labour Department. By personal interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier in November, he caused the despatch of MacKenzie King to Lethbridge. Premier Scott and Mr. Motherwell personally interceded with the Railway Companies in Winnipeg on the basis of detailed information obtained by Mr. Motherwell's Department from every place where the shortage was acute, and by these means secured much relief. Through Winnipeg dealers they got coal from Duluth to help the situation. At MacKenzie King's urgent request Mr. Scott went with a delegation to Indianapolis and took part in negotiations which ended the Lethbridge strike. And all that Mr. Haultain had to say on the subject was an utterance in shape of a sneer about Mr. Motherwell as a letter writer, a second utterance in shape of a sneer about Mr. Scott's excursion into a foreign country to see the head of a foreign labor organization, and a third utterance in shape of a sneer about the Government's inactivity.

What of more recent history? What of his Morang Text Book contract charges? He denies having meant to charge "graft," but his own newspapers' comments upon his first reference to the contract—"that there were reasons for the contract of which the House and the country would learn"—were

amongst others the following: "This afternoon Mr. Haultain threw a bomb "in the form of an unmistakable insinuation of graft in the contract for the "new School Readers. There can be no mistaking Mr. Haultain's allusion "to the School book contract. Every Member of the Assembly knew to "what it referred. The gross corruption of the Government cannot long remain hidden," (Moose Jaw News). And this: "In connection with the "School book contract, rumors of graft have been a common topic of conversation amongst the Members of the Opposition. There is good reason "for saying that Mr. Haultain had intended to spring the subject at a later "date but in the excitement of the debate it came out," (Weyburn Herald). And for fully five weeks Mr. Haultain permitted the public to believe that he had accused Mr. Calder of "graft" and that he possessed evidence to support the accusation. But when the time came to make good, when the Bill was moved for second reading, when Mr. Calder declared: "I have a right to "demand that if he has any charge to make against me he will make it fairly "and squarely and honestly; I am afraid of nothing; I know that from the "bottom to the top of the contract there is absolutely no reason why he made "the statement he did; I know that and for that reason I fear nothing; if he "has any charge to make, let him make it as a man,"—when he was thus confronted with his insinuation and forced to justify or retract, what did he say? This is what he said: "I distinctly say I never made a charge of "graft. I never make a charge I cannot prove and I admit that I cannot "prove that." And he thereupon went deeper into the mire by charging the "Calgary Herald" with having cried "graft," which charge the Herald's editor at once denied point blank in a telegram to the Premier; and by charging that the Morang Company was financed with American capital and had sub-let the contract to an American book concern, which charges the Morang Company, through their solicitor, denied in toto and promised if Mr. Haultain would make the charges outside his Parliamentary privilege to make him retract by legal process. Thus both on his main charge respecting the Morang contract and in the several details of the charge Mr. Haultain accomplished a notorious failure. The main charge he dared not adhere to, and the minor charges were one by one proved to be untrue and to be merely slander.

In the House, too, he essayed to insinuate something vaguely wrong in relation to the purchase in 1907 of a Court House site at Moose Jaw. When told by the Premier that he could get an enquiry at once if he would make a charge, he admitted that he had no charge to make. Mr. Wellington, of Moose Jaw, promised to make a charge but failed to do so. They dared not. The property was bought for \$7000 and no other equally good property could be bought at the time at as low a price. It was simply another case of slander.

MANLY STAND OF PREMIER SCOTT AND HIS COLLEAGUES— EVERY PLEDGE REDEEMED.

A standard that is fair to apply to the Opposition is fair to apply to the Government. Has Premier Scott fulfilled his promises? Has he been, or can he be, convicted of bearing false witness? What is his record? Has he been guilty of making accusations against opponents without proof? He branded J. K. McInnis a contemptible libeller and proved his charge. He has branded Mr. Haultain a falsifier in several matters and has not had to withdraw the charge in any single one of them. He gave his pledge to clear himself of the McInnis bribery charge. Did he fail? He gave his pledge to maintain rigid public control over all schools. Has he failed? He gave his pledge to yield fairness and justice to Roman Catholic and Protestant, to native-born and foreign-born alike, and to safeguard to minorities their constitutional rights. Has he failed? He gave his pledge to have the Canadian Northern brought into the Southern part of the Province. Has he failed? He promised to work without ceasing to induce the Dominion Government to build a railway to Hudson's Bay. Has he failed? He promised an active roads and bridges policy. Has he failed? The answer is the \$562,000 spent on current account on these works in 1907 besides the bridges voted for on capital account at Saskatoon, Battleford and Prince Albert, a year's programme in scope quadruple that performed in any previous year in the area of the two Provinces. He promised a progressive, energetic and withal careful policy in general. Has he failed? For answer look at the High School Act, the Supplementary Revenue Act, the University Act, the Supreme and District Courts Acts, the Telephone measures, the revised Liquor law, the result of the work of the Municipal Commission, the Corporation Tax Act, the Act taxing the income of Railway Companies, the Neglected Children's Act, the sundry activities of the Department of Agriculture in the direction of aiding and encouraging the Grain Grower, the Stockman, the Poultry Industry, the Dairy Industry, etc., the handling of the Seed Grain problem in 1908, and many minor measures and items of administration. As Leader of the Liberal Party he stood pledged to each of the 12 planks of the platform adopted by the Party in Convention in August 1905. With respect to any one of the planks has he failed to fulfil his pledges? Above all he gave his pledge to avoid conduct which would cause sectarian dissension and to adhere to a policy calculated to produce and promote harmonious relations amongst the whole people of the Province. In this, too, Premier Scott and his Government have not failed. He and they promised to adhere to the Motto of "Peace and Progress," and under Liberal administration Saskatchewan has enjoyed three years of admirable peace and three years of progress unexampled in any portion of Canada.

THE LAND BARGAIN.

In 1905 the school question was made to overshadow all else. After the Conservatives found that the people could no longer be deceived by their falsehoods about Liberals and schools, they next tried to excite prejudice against the land feature of the Autonomy bargain. They said and continue to say that the Province ought to have been made owner of the public lands.

Premier Scott was in Parliament in 1905 when the Autonomy Act was passed. He studied this land question then. And he has ever since been very emphatic in his opinion that the perpetual money subsidy secured to Saskatchewan in lieu of the lands is a much better thing for the Province than to have taken the lands themselves. Each year now the Province is drawing \$468,750 in lieu of lands. By and by when our population grows the Province will draw annually forever \$1,125,000 on this account.

Mr. Scott's opinion has recently been very strikingly confirmed,—confirmed and supported in a most positive and effective manner by the Conservative Premier of Manitoba, Hon. R. P. Roblin. In connection with the extension of Manitoba's boundaries, and respecting the mooted proposal that the public lands within the new territory should be given to the Province of Manitoba, Premier Roblin, backed by his colleagues, by the Assembly and by the Manitoba people, declared most distinctly that Manitoba did not want the lands but what they did want was cash payments and terms exactly the same as Saskatchewan and Alberta receive.

All over Canada it is believed that Saskatchewan and Alberta's land bargain makes these Provinces richer financially than is any other Province. Premier McBride, of British Columbia, in his fight for better terms in 1906, made the position of the two new Provinces his chief argument. Following the passage of the Autonomy Acts, the Prince Edward Island Legislature made a new demand at Ottawa for increased subsidy on the ground of the terms granted Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Is more proof needed? A book might be filled with proof. Here are a few items of proof.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster (Conservative) said in Parliament: "Your financial terms will bring upon you every Province in the Dominion. Take it on any ground you like and by the proportion which you have meted out to these North-West Provinces you have gone beyond the financial conditions of every other Province in this Dominion."

Mr. Monk, (Conservative) in Parliament: "This enormous indemnity, these millions of dollars to keep a hold on the lands of the North-West."

Mr. Wilson, of Lennox, (Conservative): "The Provinces get the benefit of the lands inasmuch as they get the people who settle on them and they

"get the money besides, while the Dominion is giving away the lands but "continues for all time to pay that subsidy."

J. K. McInnis, of Regina, in 1905 after examining the Bills, most emphatically approved and praised the land feature of the Bills and claimed credit for suggesting the land arrangement through his newspaper.

And upon this particular item of the Autonomy terms Hon. F. W. G. Haultain himself stated in a letter dated March 10th, 1905: "I am not unwilling to admit that an immediate income increasing with population and certain in amount may in the long run prove quite as satisfactory as any probable net income resulting from local administration of the public domain."

Are these expressions not complete proof that the land arrangement is a good one for Saskatchewan? Those who denounce the land bargain are fakirs, pure and simple. They cannot condemn it without swallowing their own words and condemning themselves. Remember these facts. If the Province had taken the lands the Provincial Government would have been obliged to administer and pay for:

- (1) The Mounted Police; or let the Force be withdrawn;
- (2) The Immigration service (having kept the lands Ottawa continues to spend roundly \$1,000,000 a year upon immigration); and
- (3) Management of the lands.

Besides this the Province would have had to agree to continue the homesteading policy.

Then the Province would have lost the cash subsidy.

Can you do a simple sum in arithmetic? Then figure out where Saskatchewan would be to-day financially if the lands had been given us in 1905 instead of the subsidy. Where? Back in Ottawa, along with British Columbia and Manitoba, hat in hand, pleading for better terms.

THREE YEARS PROVINCIAL HOUSEKEEPING.

Since that memorable 1905 campaign there have been three sessions of the Legislative Assembly. In the interval the electors have had ample time to ponder and weigh the character of the campaign that was waged against Mr. Scott and his Government. They have also had leisure to judge as to whether or not the public affairs of the province are being administered wisely and well. The people entrusted Mr. Scott with their business. He became their general manager. His record is now before them and he appeals for their support and a renewal of their confidence. That he will receive the hearty approval of the great majority of the electors is undoubted. His kindly character, his ability as a leader, his firmness of purpose, his close attention to public business, and above all his breadth of view and his quali-

ties as a statesman stamp him as the one man to be entrusted with the government of the province during the next legislative term. While the past three years have been important in the political history of Saskatchewan, the next three or four years will be doubly so. Mr. Scott and his Government have just embarked on a comprehensive policy involving railway and telephone development, the organization of local self governing bodies and other matters of importance to the people. They look for the approval of the electors and ask to be entrusted with the carrying out of the general policy which they have announced.

CONSTRUCTIVE LEGISLATION.

The statute books of Saskatchewan for the first three years of its provincial existence will forever stand as a monument to the constructive ability of Mr. Scott and his Government. In no other Parliament in Canada has such a vast amount of useful, necessary and exceedingly important legislation been put through in such a short space of time. More than that the new laws submitted to the Assembly were so carefully prepared and so perfect in their provisions that in the great majority of cases they met with the full approval of the Opposition. A mere citation of a few of the laws will indicate their importance as well as the range of pressing problems that had to be dealt with. The following list partially covers the field:—

1. Organization of Provincial Courts—Supreme, District and Surrogate.
2. Municipal legislation—for the creation of cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities.
3. The establishment of High Schools and Collegiate Institutes.
4. Formation of Public Libraries.
5. Mechanics', Woodmen's and Threshers' Liens.
6. Creation of the University of Saskatchewan.
7. Redistribution of Provincial Constituencies.
8. Provincial Election Law.
9. Taxation of all Corporations.
10. Taxation of Railway Companies.
11. Free Text Books.
12. The Supplementary Revenue Act.
13. Wolf Bounties.
14. General Railway Act.
15. Registration of Real Property.
16. Local Option and the Liquor Traffic.
17. Seed Grain.
18. Public Health.
19. Telephones.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

In taking stock of our provincial housekeeping it is well at the very outset that every elector should have a clear idea as to how Saskatchewan stands financially. The whole story is told in a very few words: During the past three years the Government has expended more than four millions of dollars and the province does not owe one copper. No other province in Canada is in as strong a position. Owing to the magnificent bargain which we made with the Dominion our revenues have not only been ample for all ordinary purposes of government but we have been enabled as well to spend \$562,620 on public buildings and large steel bridges. And still the opponents of the Scott Government go about the country shouting blue ruin and bankruptcy. There is absolutely no justification for this "knocking" policy. But that is the good old Tory plan of trying to gain office. It seems impossible for Haultain and his hungry office seekers to avoid misrepresentation. Let us look at the facts. What do the Public Accounts of the province show? Here are the figures. Anybody can understand them: —

From Sept. 1st, 1905, to Feb. 28th, 1907, the total receipts of the Government from all sources were \$2,200,314.75, and the total expenditures \$1,718,034.61, leaving a surplus of cash on hand of \$482,280.14. For the year that followed from March 1st, 1907, to March 1st, 1908, the total receipts including the surplus carried forward were \$2,420,400.67 and the total expenditures for all ordinary purposes of government were \$1,989,195.56.

During the second session of the Assembly the Government announced a policy of borrowing money to meet what are usually called "capital expenditures." This is the plan adopted by all governments, municipalities and corporations. The policy of the Government in this respect was unanimously endorsed by every Member of the Assembly, and finally an Act was passed authorizing the Government to borrow two million dollars for this purpose. There was not a word raised in protest. In fact, Mr. Haultain twitted the Government for not taking this action at the first session of the House. As regards the general question here is what Haultain had to say in 1906:—

"Regarding the capital expenditure, or expenditure out of revenue, if we can do it on a reasonable basis we should not go into debt. I believe, however, there is a principle surrounding the building of a bridge, just as there is a principle surrounding the building of a school house or in public improvement in a town in the shape of waterworks, sewerage or electric light systems. That principle is, that a man of to-day should not be called upon to put his hands into his pockets and take out of the revenue of to-day the whole cost and expense of these large public works. The smallest school district in the country wishing to make an expenditure of five or six hundred dollars does not go and levy the whole cost on the rates of to-day. It is spread over a period of years and they pay for it so much a year. Why

"should we pay the whole cost of the great public works which are to last 50 or 60 years and of which the people who come afterward will get just as much benefit as we do? So I say the throwing of the whole burden of large bridges and other matters referred to on the revenue is not a good policy."

Again, in 1907, Mr. Haultain spoke as follows:—"I must not be understood as finding fault with making provision for expenditures on capital account. The province must have the necessary buildings, institutions and public works and it was only fair to the people of the province to-day that these should be provided for out of capital and not current account. No province could be run without going into debt."

As everybody knows the Government during the years 1906 and 1907 was constructing some large, important and costly works including several public buildings and two magnificent steel bridges over the Saskatchewan River. Ordinarily the money required for these should have been borrowed as Mr. Haultain suggested, but the Government concluded that so long as it had money in the bank it should not pay interest and so last year a temporary loan was made from current revenue to meet the cost of these bridges and buildings, amounting to \$327,620.36.

The standing, therefore, of the finances of the province for the past fiscal year may be summarized as follows: —

Surplus carried forward from the previous year	\$ 482,280.14
Receipts from all other sources	1,938,120.53
Total receipts	<u>\$2,420,400.67</u>
Expenditures for all ordinary purposes	<u>1,989,195.56</u>
Actual surplus	\$ 431,205.11

The surplus was used to meet an extraordinary hail insurance deficit of \$102,417.03 and there was advanced to meet capital expenditures \$327,620.36 leaving \$1,167.72 cash on hand.

Mr. Haultain and his party and the Conservative press and speakers may juggle figures and twist and turn as they please but the figures quoted are taken from the Public Accounts and cannot be contradicted.

There are a number of other important facts regarding our finances that should be borne in mind. Here are a few of them:

(1) The money paid to the province by the Dominion Government has increased from \$1,186,650.01 in 1906, to \$1,410,657.19 in 1907. Under the terms of the Autonomy Act there will be larger increases in future years.

(2) The total amounts received from the Dominion by the province in lieu of lands since Saskatchewan was established, including school land funds, amounts to over \$1,840,000. If it were not for this source of revenue whence

would we receive our funds to carry on the work of government? Haultain says we would sell our lands. To whom? The speculator, of course. Oh, no! We have too many speculators here now.

(3) The ordinary local revenues of the province have increased from \$339,823.78 in 1906 to an estimated revenue of \$806,250.00 in 1908.

(4) Our total estimated ordinary revenues this year amount to \$2,377,329.46. We received in 1906 (in 14 months) only \$2,081,712.98. And still Haultain talks about our decreasing revenue and a lot of other tom-foolery.

(5) The Government surplus at the end of 1905 was \$546,704.82. On March 1st, 1906, it was \$482,280.14, and on March 1st, 1907, it was \$328,788.08. And in the face of these facts the Conservative party are hoarse shouting about bankruptcy.

(6) The expenditures of the Government for roads, bridges, schools, hospitals, charities, public health, agriculture, dairying, poultry, live stock, hail insurance, insane, police and other services have been doubled and trebled during the past three years and still the revenues of the province have been found to be more than ample for all purposes.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT,

Showing Total Revenues of North-West Territories (Saskatchewan and Alberta) for 1904 and of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta for 1906 and 1907.

	N. W. T.	Province of Saskatchewan		Province of Alberta	
	1904	1906	1907	1906	1907
From Dominion of Canada	\$952,287.66	\$1,186,650.01	\$1,410,657.19	\$1,124,125.00	\$1,147,458.34
From Local Sources	158,465.42	347,232.39	527,463.34	394,684.01	721,394.12
	\$1,110,753.08	\$1,533,882.40	\$1,938,120.53	\$1,518,809.01	\$1,868,852.46

Total Grants received from Dominion by Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1904—the last full year of the N.W.T.\$ 952,287.66

Total Grants received from Dominion by Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1906—the first full year under Provincial Government 2,310,775.01

Total Grants received from Dominion by Saskatchewan and Alberta in 1907—the second year under Provincial Government .. 2,558,115.53

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT,

Showing Revenue Received from Local Sources.

Whole of N.W.T. in 1904 and Saskatchewan 1906 and 1907.

Department	N.W.T.—1904	Saskatchewan 1906—14 mos.	Saskatchewan 1907
Provincial Secretary	\$ 16,466.90	\$ 28,905.35	\$ 22,940.45
Attorney-General	82,401.58	151,525.34	296,178.85
Public Works	15,115.19	19,189.17	31,912.74
Agriculture	8,254.07	42,345.64	23,187.37
Education	1,117.00	1,433.00	1,408.25
Treasury	31,544.93	90,375.30	138,468.35
Government Printer	2,161.10	3,437.88	3,962.17
Legislative Assembly	1,404.65	2,612.10	1,534.00
Sundry Items			7,871.16
Totals	\$158,465.42	\$339,823.78	\$527,463.34

PROVINCIAL EXPENDITURES,

For the Fiscal Year Ending February 29, 1908, Chargeable to Income.

Public Services.	Estimated Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Increase over estimate.	Decrease below estimate.
Civil Government	\$ 141,822.50	\$ 137,877.11		\$ 3,945.39
Legislative Assembly ..	61,410.00	30,735.34		30,674.66
Administration of Jus- tice	384,620.00	304,079.51		80,540.49
Public Works Dept. ..	853,549.00	964,393.94	\$110,844.94	
Education Dept.	322,800.00	260,902.76		71,897.24
Agriculture & Statistics	179,055.00	112,367.10		66,687.90
Hospitals, Charities, etc	31,000.00	30,371.30		628.70
Miscellaneous (hail ins)	151,850.00	250,885.53	99,035.53	
Totals	\$2,136,106.50	\$2,091,612.59	\$209,880.47	\$254,374.38
Amount expended less than estimate	44,493.91			44,493.47
	\$2,091,612.59	\$2,091,612.59	\$209,880.47	\$209,880.47
Total Revenue				\$2,420,400.67
Total Expenditures for all ordinary purposes of Gov- ernment			\$1,989,195.66	
Total Deficit on Hail Insurance business			102,417.03	
Advance made from Revenues for Capital Expen- ditures			327,620.36	
Balance on hand			1,167.72	2,420,400.67

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT,

Of Expenditures for Public Improvements in North-West Territories (Saskatchewan and Alberta) for 1904 and in the Province of Saskatchewan for the year 1907.

Improvements.	In whole of N.W.T. 1904.	Province of Saskatchewan 1907.
Small Bridges and Dams	\$122,960.53	\$ 188,081.94
Roads, Grading and Culverts	95,073.91	374,074.76
Maintenance and Repairs	104,028.25	54,986.53
Surveys	60,811.79	64,448.41
Ferries and Fire Guards	24,607.81	50,518.71
Ditches, Drains, Well Boring	42,823.17	76,400.39
Tools, Implements, Inspection	8,031.27	50,403.91
Large Steel Bridges		179,843.25
Public Buildings		147,777.11
Totals	\$473,365.65	\$1,186,535.01

EXPENDING PUBLIC MONEY.

Mr. Scott and his colleagues have expended over four million dollars of the people's money, and to-day the Government can point with pride to the fact that not one single charge has been laid at its door or against any of its officials. In these days when the words "graft" and "boodle" are on the tongue of every Conservative politician it is strange indeed that the Government at Regina has escaped. The poisoned darts of the scandal-monger and the political cut-throat fill the air, but Mr. Scott's opponents have not dared to aim these at him or any of his fellow-workers. During the three sessions of the Assembly there has not been a single committee of inquiry, there has been no necessity for any kind of investigation. It is true that Haultain and some of his followers on one or two occasions indulged in insinuation. But in every instance they were compelled to eat their words and fall back on Dame Rumour, Madame Gossip, and the Calgary Eye-Opener for their authority. Whenever on the floor of the Assembly either Mr. Haultain or any of his party hinted at wrong-doing they were immediately challenged to ask for an enquiry and were told if they did so a commission would be granted. But as every one knows no charge was ever made and consequently no inquiry was necessary. In the history of Canadian politics this record has been unequalled. It speaks volumes for the four men now entrusted with the administration of affairs in Saskatchewan. It is the strongest possible proof of the fact that the business of the province is being conducted in a safe, business-like way. It is a clear indication that the men now in office are men to be entrusted and relied upon.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Every farmer in Saskatchewan is intensely interested in the question of good roads. In a very large measure indeed does our prosperity and future development depend on the construction of highways to our market towns. If conveniently located and well built, good roads mean the saving of thousands upon thousands of dollars to our pioneer settlers. When the Scott Government took office it immediately turned its attention to the solution of this problem. A cursory enquiry into the administration of the Public Works Department under the Haultain Government was sufficient to show that only a very imperfect system of road construction had been adopted. More than that, as is well known, hundreds of thousands of dollars of the people's money had been thrown away without accomplishing any permanent results. Mr. Scott determined that this condition of affairs should cease. He personally took charge of the Department and to-day we see the results of his labors. The whole system of administration has been changed. A first-class man was appointed as Superintendent of Highways, an officer who with his staff of qualified engineers give their entire time and energies to planning, supervising and constructing main thoroughfares everywhere throughout the province. In this way a well thought out, scientific, progressive scheme of road making has been adopted and put in force.

Some criticism has been made against the Government on account of its employment of road gangs. Mr. Scott, however, has but one object in view. He wishes to see the people get the fullest possible value for their money. The making of good roads is a business. It cannot be learned in a day. The road gangs now employed are doing better work as they gain experience. Early this year the majority of the foremen met at Regina and spent several days discussing the whole problem of road construction. The result will be that they will accomplish this season a great deal more with the same amount of money. Is not this good policy? Every person who has not an axe to grind must admit it is. Besides it must be remembered that the season for road building is very short. Then again at the time when road making should be proceeded with it has in some years been found impossible to secure labor. The road gangs, however, in charge of experienced competent foremen are continuously at work. They jump from one job to another and are always authorized to secure whatever local labor is available. With the adoption of this policy and with a liberal expenditure of public money the farmers of Saskatchewan may rest assured that if Mr. Scott and his Government receive the continued support of the electors we will have in the course of a very few years a first class system of main highways that will be a credit to the province and a great convenience to our people.

BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION.

In every corner of the Province the activity of the Scott Government is shown by the hundreds of substantial bridges which it has built. The people's wants in this regard are being attended to just as rapidly as circumstances will permit. Every reasonable person will acknowledge that all the requirements cannot be met immediately. Hundreds upon hundreds of requests for the building of bridges reach the Government every year. These are carefully considered and in every instance the bridges most urgently needed are constructed. The following figures will give some indication of the work undertaken by the Public Works Department in the last full year of the Scott Government as compared with the last two full years of the Haultain regime:

Bridge Construction—Comparative Statement.

In the Two Provinces:

Year.	No. Repaired.	No. Recon- structed.	No. Constructed.	Total
1903	52	28	127	207
1904	94	23	247	*364

*14 of these were steel bridges on pile piers.

In Saskatchewan Alone.

1907	103	59	307	*469
------------	-----	----	-----	------

*29 of these were steel bridges, not including the Saskatoon and Battleford bridges.

EXPENDITURE ON SMALL BRIDGES.

In the Two Provinces.

1902	\$51,000
1903	50,000
1904	122,000
1905	130,000

In Saskatchewan Alone.

1906	110,000
1907	188,000

These figures tell the story of the increased energy of the Public Works Department under the Scott Government. On small bridges alone compare 1902-1903 under Mr. Haultain for the whole N.W.T.—\$101,000; as against \$298,000 in 1906 and 1907 under Mr. Scott for Saskatchewan alone.

OUTLAY ON PUBLIC WORKS GENERALLY.

Glance at the comparison of figures which tell the tale of the public works programme during the past six years:—

In the Two Provinces.

	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Roads	\$ 32,000	\$ 46,000	\$ 95,000	\$ 54,000
Small Bridges, &c.	51,000	50,000	122,000	130,000
General	175,000	200,000	237,000	160,000
Total	\$258,000	\$296,000	\$454,000	\$344,000

In Saskatchewan Alone.

	1906.	1907.
Roads	\$ 60,000	\$374,000
Small Bridges	110,000	188,000
General	147,000	295,000
Total	\$317,000	\$857,000

In 1907 the Scott Government laid out \$857,000 on general public works in Saskatchewan, which was more than the Haultain Government ever did in any two years in the area of the two Provinces.

In 1907, under Mr. Scott, the percentage of cost of administration upon public works was brought down to 2.28 per cent. The lowest it had ever been before was 3.03 in 1904. This item is lower in Saskatchewan than in any other Province:—

Province	1905	1906	1907
Saskatchewan	3.56	2.28	
Ontario	6.71	4.95	
Manitoba	8.29	8.17	
British Columbia	4.53	5.75	
Alberta		7.10	5.20

SASKATCHEWAN RIVER BRIDGES.

For many long years the residents in the vicinity of Saskatoon, Battleford and Prince Albert hopefully looked forward to the erection of traffic bridges over the Saskatchewan River. Time and again the matter had been brought to the attention of the Territorial Government but little or nothing was done. Within a very short time after his taking hold of the Public Works Department strong representations were made to Mr. Scott respecting the necessity for these structures and he decided to proceed with two of them immediately. The result is that to-day we have a magnificent steel bridge spanning the river at Saskatoon, and the work on the larger and more expensive structure at Battleford is well advanced. About a year ago the third bridge at Prince Albert was arranged for. It is to be a joint railway and traffic bridge and will be of very great service not only to the people of the city, but also to the large farming community located north and west thereof. The erection of this bridge will also ensure to the farmers of the Shellbrook country the railway which they have waited for so patiently. The three bridges when complete will cost the province in the neighborhood of \$550,000, which will be charged to capital account. Thousands of people are pleased with the prompt action of the Government in undertaking these very costly and at the same time very necessary public improvements.

WATER SUPPLY.

Of all the problems with which the Government has had to deal this is without question one of the most difficult. Some people expect the Government to succeed in finding water where there is none. And if the Government makes the attempt and fails it is blamed. Besides very often there is a great deal of local jealousy as to where the tests for water should be made. After a year's very trying experience the Government decided to go out of the well-boring business except in the case of the big machine which is intended to make tests at a depth of from 1,500 ft. to 2,500 ft. Instead the Government has adopted a policy of liberally assisting private machines or machines owned by groups of farmers. The plan has worked admirably. Under it no less than 75 machines have been brought into the Province and have been actually at work in those regions where the securing of a supply of water is difficult. The reports in the Department show that through their operation no less than 211 wells, and of these no less than 158 containing a good supply of water, have been sunk. During the present year the great majority of these machines are at work and others are being brought in. While there still remains a great deal to be done the Government has made a sincere

effort, at a very considerable cost, to meet a condition that is exceedingly trying to many of our farmers. For years before Mr. Scott became Premier, the Haultain administration had frittered away its time and the people's money with no practical results. Since 1905, however, the matter has been taken up in a business-like way and in many portions of the Province with excellent success.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND BUILDINGS.

The public buildings being erected by the Scott Government at different points in the province are a credit to Saskatchewan. Every building is well-planned, well-constructed and handsome in appearance. As will be readily seen from the statement below these buildings have been well distributed and will be a great convenience to the public. The policy of centralization so long followed by the Haultain administration is gradually being done away with. The building programme of the Government includes the following:—

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Legislative and Departmental Buildings | Regina |
| 2. Land Titles Office | " |
| 3. Court House | Moose Jaw |
| 4. Land Titles Office | " |
| 5. Court House | Saskatoon |
| 6. Land Titles Office | " |
| 7. Court House | Battleford |
| 8. Land Titles Office | " |
| 9. Court House | Arcola |
| 10. Gaol | Moosomin |
| 11. Asylum | In northern part of province |
| 12. Land Titles Office | Yorkton |

In the City of Prince Albert the province owns a provincial gaol and it is furnished with excellent quarters for Court purposes and its land titles office in the new building erected by the Dominion Government.

In the course of time a number of other public institutions will have to be provided, including the university buildings, an agricultural college, a home for incurables, an institute for the deaf and dumb, additional court houses, land titles offices, and other buildings to meet the requirements of a rapidly growing community.

LEGISLATIVE AND DEPARTMENTAL BUILDINGS.

Every true citizen who is interested in our Government and who is anxious that Saskatchewan should take its rightful place amongst the confederated Provinces of Canada is glad to know that the contract for our Capitol buildings has been awarded and the actual work of construction begun. The building will be completed in 1910. To give a full account of all the various details that had to be attended to in planning and arranging for the future home of our Provincial Legislature would require far more space than can be given in this brief pamphlet. Suffice to say, that in no instance in Canadian history has any public building been arranged with such extremecare and prudence and forethought as have been exercised by Mr. Scott in the case of this building. For two years he has had in hand the direction of all the details and as a result we have in sight to-day the erection of Legislative buildings that will for generations stand to his credit and that will be the pride and boast of our people.

The matter of obtaining a proper design for a monumental structure was one of the first to receive attention. To this end an architectural competition was held under conditions framed by Percy E. Nobbs, M.A., A.R.I.B.A., Professor of Architecture at McGill University. Then by personal effort Mr. Scott induced to enter the competition a list of the very best architects on the continent. Seven designs were submitted and were judged by a Board composed of Professor Nobbs, Mr. Goodhue, of New York, and Professor Day, of Philadelphia, the latter when selected being President of the American Architects' Association. The design of Messrs. Maxwell & Maxwell, of Montreal, was chosen. Amongst the competitors was an architect no less distinguished than Mr. Cass Gilbert, designer of the Minnesota State Capitol, by common consent one of the most successful pieces of architecture in the world. Mr. Gilbert also designed New York's Custom House and many other splendid public buildings and the fact that he was a competitor is proof that the design for our Provincial building is a worthy one. Equal care has been shown in placing the contract for construction in the hands of men about whose ability to carry out and complete the work in the very best manner no possible doubt can be entertained. At the head of building contractors in Canada stand Peter Lyall & Sons, and to this firm has been awarded the contract at a price almost \$100,000 less than the architect's estimate. Some murmurings have been heard about delay in procedure. There has been no delay. To attempt haste in the provision of a structure which ought to stand for generations would have been very unwise. One pleasing result of taking due time and care in all the preliminary arrangements is that the Province is obtaining its building at a cost fully 10% less than if the contract had been given one year ago when prices were higher.

Mr. Scott has dealt with this problem in a large, masterly way. He had in view all the time not the Saskatchewan of the present but the Saskatchewan of the future. Firmly convinced as he is that our Province is destined in a short period to be peopled with its millions he decided to build accordingly. The penny wise and pound foolish policy was discarded. We will have as a consequence a really magnificent structure and one which will appeal to the patriotism and the citizenship of every son and daughter of Saskatchewan.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES.

The Government has arrived at the conclusion that the time has come when the people of Saskatchewan should enjoy and exercise a larger measure of local self-government. With the exception of the three provinces west of Manitoba every other province in Canada has its rural municipalities. The problem of providing a system of rural organization to suit our needs and conditions is by no means a simple one. The Scott Government determined from the very outset that the people themselves should be consulted and that there should not be foisted on them a complicated expensive system that they did not want. The conclusion was early reached that the system of municipalities to be provided should be simple in its organization and that a determined effort should be made to provide against unnecessary taxation. With this object in view a Bill was drafted and submitted to the Assembly at its last session. But owing to the vast amount of exceedingly important legislation which the Government had in hand it was found impossible to fully consider and perfect the Rural Municipality Act without unduly prolonging what had already been a long session. Finally, the Premier decided to hold the Bill over until next session which will likely be held in December and then our rural municipalities will be enabled to organize during the winter months and will be ready for business next spring. In the meantime the Bill has been printed and distributed to all our local improvement districts in order that councillors may study its provisions and offer suggested amendments.

TELEPHONES.

The manner in which the Scott Government dealt with the telephone problem is another evidence that the people have at the head of affairs a body of men who are shrewd, safe and business-like. During the second session of the Legislature, Mr. Haultain endeavored to force the Government to commit itself to a telephone policy of his liking. The Government, however, said no. It took the stand that before any policy was adopted that might involve the province in expenditures amounting to millions of dollars the most careful inquiry should be made into the whole problem. In due course

Mr. Haultain himself was convinced that this was the proper policy to pursue and he withdrew his motion.

The course pursued by the Government since then is well known. The services of Mr. Francis Dagger, one of the leading telephone experts on the continent, were secured and he immediately set to work to make a thorough and exhaustive study of our conditions from a telephone point of view. In good time his report was submitted to the Government and at the recent session of the Legislature the policy adopted was embodied in three Acts which were finally passed and which are now law. Stated briefly the Government's policy is as follows:

(1) A department of the public service has been created with one of the ministers in charge to manage and control the government lines.

(2) The Government proposes to proceed immediately with the construction, maintenance and operation of long distance lines throughout the province. It is estimated that at least 600 miles will be built in 1908 and 1,000 miles in 1909. All our important cities, towns and villages will be connected up just as rapidly as possible.

(3) Provision has been made for the construction and operation of local exchanges by municipalities. The people whom the exchanges will be intended to serve can construct, maintain and operate their local systems at far less cost than the Government. This has been the experience everywhere and in the end will result in better service and cheaper telephones. The Government at all times will be willing and ready to give the services of any of its experts to municipalities desiring to build. The Government's long distance lines will also be connected with every local exchange.

(4) In the case of farmers' telephone lines the Government has gone further than any other government on this continent. The proposal is to assist in the organization of rural telephone companies. Upon the petition of those interested the Telephone Department will undertake the formation of any proposed company without any charges whatever. When the company is formed and its proposed telephone system is approved the Government will supply it with all the poles it requires free of cost at the nearest railway station. As the total cost of rural lines with their full equipment runs from \$75 to \$100 per mile and as the poles alone cost from \$35 to \$45 per mile, it can readily be seen what the government assistance amounts to. Under this policy the farmers of Saskatchewan will be able to construct and operate thousands upon thousands of miles of rural lines at a minimum cost. The result will be that they will get telephone service at a less rate than is charged anywhere in America. Already the Telephone Department is being deluged with applications for the organization of companies. Within the course of a few weeks the active work of construction will be begun and before winter sets in telephone lines will be seen everywhere stretching across our prairies to the immense advantage and convenience of our people.

OUR AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS.

The Province of Saskatchewan belongs to its farmers. It is their inheritance. Their success means everybody's success. The Government recognizes that unless our rural people are happy, contented and prosperous our country cannot grow and develop. We are and will be for all time a great agricultural community dependent entirely on the farmers' energy and the farmers' labor. Mr. Scott recognized this at the very outset of his provincial career. When he looked about him to choose a colleague who would have charge of the important Department of Agriculture, to whom did he turn? Not to a lawyer, or a doctor, or a professional politician. No! He selected Mr. Motherwell, a man who came to Western Canada twenty-five years ago and who all his life has made the tillage of the soil his calling. As a graduate of Guelph Agricultural College, and as a practical, up-to-date farmer, who is thoroughly versed in every phase of our agricultural interests Mr. Motherwell has brought to bear on his work as a member of the Government a knowledge and experience that are invaluable to the farming interests of Saskatchewan. It has been said and said truly that there is no Provincial Minister of Agriculture in Canada that is his peer. But be that as it may, every farmer knows that in season and out of season Hon. Mr. Motherwell has devoted his entire time and energies to the betterment and improvement of our agricultural interests and conditions. In a short pamphlet such as this, space will not permit to more than outline the work of the Department of Agriculture with its numerous and important branches.

AIDS TO AGRICULTURE.

When Mr. Motherwell first took office he made up his mind that the work of his Department was of such vast importance that it demanded the attention of the very best men he could secure. He did not want to be handicapped by inexperienced officials who had little or no practical knowledge and who had even less sympathy for their work. He therefore set about in a business-like way to gather around him a strong staff of well-tried, experienced officials. The result is that to-day the Department of Agriculture has one of the strongest staffs in the public service and as a consequence there has been a most noticeable improvement in its work all along the line.

The work of the Department is very largely of an educational nature. It is not what is usually classed as a "spending department." And yet the expenditures of the Department in fostering and aiding agriculture and stock-raising in their various forms amounted last year to no less than \$112,327.10. The amount expended by Haultain during his last full year of office for the whole of the North-West Territories was only \$31,799.36. These figures will

give some idea of the importance attached by the Scott Government to the development of our agricultural resources. The grants to Agricultural Societies also has increased from \$8,999.00 in 1904 to \$38,500.00 in 1908. These societies, under the guidance and assistance of the Government, are doing splendid work and are deserving of the fullest praise. A year or two ago at the instigation of Mr. Motherwell and as a result of the assistance offered by the Government they were induced to arrange for experimental seed plots and to conduct seed fairs. These, along with the "good seed" campaign which was carried on jointly with the officials of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, are bearing good fruit. To-day as a result of this work our farmers recognize more fully that the question of sowing good seed is of the most vital importance.

In the meantime provision has been made for assisting the sons and daughters of our farmers to take advantage of the courses of instruction given in the other Agricultural Colleges in Canada. Last year 22 young men from Saskatchewan attended the Colleges at Winnipeg and Guelph, and they earned scholarships paid by Mr. Motherwell's Department amounting to \$1,700.00. This year the amount set aside for the purpose is \$2,500.00, including \$500.00 to be devoted to the education of farmers' daughters who wish to take a course of training in domestic or household science.

Would space permit there are a great many other matters looked after by Hon. Mr. Motherwell and his capable staff that would bear discussion. The mere enumeration of some of these will be sufficient to indicate their importance. They include—the preparation and distribution of crop, smut and other bulletins of special interest to farmers, the preservation of our game, the establishment of experimental plots throughout the Province, the preparation and dissemination in pamphlet form of reliable information respecting the resources of Saskatchewan, the administration of the Hospital Act and the Public Health Act.

The following figures quoted from the Estimates for the current year will be of interest as indicating the assistance given by the Government to aid and encourage our agriculturists:—

Grants to Agricultural Societies	\$38,500
Farmers' Institute Meetings	5,500
Dominion Exhibition at Calgary	2,500
Grant to Provincial Fair—Saskatchewan	4,000
Grant to Grain Growers' Association	500
Farm Crop Experiments	500
Official Judges at Exhibitions	2,500
Grant to Stock Breeders' Association	1,000

Provincial Fat Stock Show	1,500
Brand Book	1,500
Grant to encourage horse breeding industry	1,000
Travelling Dairies	4,000
Poultry Fattening Stations	800
Weed and Smut Bulletins	2,000
Noxious Weed Expenditures	13,500
Destruction of Wolves	4,000
Destruction of Gophers	2,500
Agricultural and Domestic Science scholarships	2,500

FARMERS' INSTITUTES AND DAIRY BRANCH.

Of all the work of the Department of Agriculture that which is probably productive of the best results is our Farmers' Institutes. The arrangements for these meetings have always received the special care of Mr. Motherwell himself. As far as possible they have been held at convenient points so as to reach the largest number of persons interested. Every effort has been made to secure as speakers the most practical and experienced agriculturists in Western Canada.

That these meetings have been a great success is universally admitted. Thousands of our farmers have been materially benefited and doubtless the good sound practical advice which they have carried away has resulted in improved methods of farming which means not only dollars and cents to the individual but to the nation as well.

Brief attention must also be drawn to the Dairy Branch. While this phase of agriculture has as yet but little interest for the great majority of our farmers it is bound to grow in importance from year to year. At present the department is doing all in its power to encourage the dairy industry in those portions of the province best suited to it. A number of creameries have been established and are in successful operation. Under the careful supervision of the officials of the Dairy Branch butter is manufactured, prepared for the market and sold at the best advantage. The farmers reap the benefit and receive a handsome return for their trouble. Where creameries have not been established excellent results have been attained through the "travelling dairy." By this means a great many farmers and their wives have acquired a practical knowledge of the very latest and approved methods of handling the cream separator and of butter making.

The stock industry has not been overlooked. The various associations

interested in cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry have been encouraged and assisted by the Government in a practical way. They have been granted liberal assistance in connection with their annual exhibitions and sales; and in a number of instances the Department of Agriculture has made arrangements to have leading experts attend their gatherings to deliver lectures or addresses.

AN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

In the near future the question of the establishment of an agricultural college must receive the serious attention of the Government. As a graduate of one of these institutions, the Hon. Mr. Motherwell is thoroughly versed in their necessity and usefulness. For a year or more he has been making a close study of the scope and work of the various agricultural colleges established in Canada and the United States. He is thoroughly convinced that this is one of the most important questions the province has to deal with. The farmers of Saskatchewan may rest assured that it is in safe hands. If Mr. Motherwell is given the opportunity to undertake this important work there can be no doubt that there will be established in our midst an institution for the advancement of our agricultural interests that will be a credit to the province and that will be essentially practical in its scope.

SEED GRAIN.

During the present year the Government of Saskatchewan was confronted with one of the most intricate and difficult problems which any government can face, namely, the supplying of seed grain to thousands of people. To any one who is not acquainted with the multiplicity of important details that must receive attention in a general distribution of seed grain the problem may appear quite simple. These details include the purchasing of grain of suitable quality, the securing of the necessary classes of grain, the cleaning of the seed, its sacking, arranging for freight and distribution, the taking of security for payment of the price, arranging for freight rates, the taking of applications and a hundred and one other matters. If the farmers of Saskatchewan will pause and consider the work involved and the exceeding care that had to be exercised in dealing with this problem they will unhesitatingly accord to Hon. Mr. Motherwell, who bore the brunt of it all, his full measure of praise. He put forth every effort to protect the farmer and to protect the Government from fraud and he succeeded in supplying about 15,000 farmers of the province with the seed which they required. For weeks, night and day, he bent his energies to the solution of the question. And if he was successful it was due to his intimate practical knowledge of our conditions, his courage, his pluck and his dogged perseverance and determination to succeed in anything he undertakes.

The quantity of grain supplied was enormous—over a million bushels. Over 15,000 applications from individual farmers had to be dealt with. That the distribution was made so successfully in such a short time is simply marvellous. To-day the grain fields of Saskatchewan which give promise of a bountiful harvest are an indication that the province has at the head of its Department of Agriculture a business administrator who is capable of handling successfully any problem which may affect the interests of our farming community. Had it not been for the prompt action taken by the Government as a result of which the credit of the province is pledged to the extent of over \$1,000,000, hundreds of thousands of acres of prepared land would to-day be lying uncropped. As it is, Saskatchewan this year has the largest crop area in its history and everybody confidently looks forward to a bumper harvest.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of our people and the prevention of disease are matters that concern every citizen. As an indication of the business methods of the Scott Government and the manner in which it gives attention to every phase and detail of our public life it is only necessary to point out that arrangements have been made whereby the health of our people is now safeguarded as it never was before under any previous Government. A competent public health officer was appointed two years ago. He is in constant touch with every part of the province and, whenever there is an outbreak of any contagious or infectious disease steps are taken immediately to stamp it out. It is also the duty of the provincial health officer to inspect hospitals, visit and report upon railway and lumber camps, and generally to take all precautions necessary to protect the health of our citizens.

For the purpose of assisting the medical men of the province to diagnose diseases there was established some years ago in connection with the Department of Agriculture a bacteriological laboratory. When Mr. Motherwell took office he found the laboratory very inadequately equipped and understaffed. During the past two years the necessary apparatus for testing and experimental work has been added at considerable cost and the staff has been increased. As a result we have at present one of the best equipped laboratories in Canada and every person who is acquainted with the institution speaks in the highest praise of its work. In addition to diagnosing germ and other diseases, the officials in charge analyze samples of water, soils, gases, coal, straw, grains, etc. They also test for poisons, manufacture serums and vaccine, and generally carry on a series of experiments and research work that is exceedingly valuable indeed.

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION.

The electors of Saskatchewan have not forgotten the wild assertions, the misrepresentations, the shifting policies, the falsehoods, the baseless charge and lying insinuations made by Mr. Scott's opponents at the time of the last provincial elections. The people were told that Mr. Scott had entered into conspiracy and they were led to believe that hundreds of separate schools—Roman Catholic, Protestant, German, Galician, French and various other kinds—would be established immediately. Special privileges of all kind were to be granted to all and sundry that applied. As soon as the elections were over Mr. Scott was to deliver the goods. He was bound hand and foot to the enemies of liberty. From every platform in the country Haultain and his lieutenants thundered their warnings and endeavored to arouse religious passions and race prejudices. Mr. Scott, however, stood his ground. On the school question his position was clear cut and direct. He made the pledge that he would carry out to the letter the school law which had existed in the Province for many years—a law which Haultain had himself time and again declared to be satisfactory. In that famous campaign the school question was the main issue. The results proved that the good common sense of the majority of the electors prevented them from being misled and deceived. They believed Mr. Scott to be a man of his word and they landed him and his supporters at the head of the polls.

And to-day what do we find? Nearly three years have rolled round since Haultain uttered his base insinuations. What justification had he for his deliberate charges and misrepresentations? There has been no change in the law, no change in the school regulations except for the betterment of our schools, no special privileges granted, no sign of any conspiracy or compromise, no demand for any investigation or inquiry of any kind, no evidence whatever produced to show that our school laws are not being carried out as Mr. Scott pledged they would be. Some of the people of Saskatchewan were fooled and tricked by Haultain and his imported orators—they were fooled once—but will not be again.

Under the able and well directed administration of Hon. J. A. Calder, the Department of Education is fulfilling its mission. Since the Scott Government has had charge of affairs no fewer than 750 new school districts have been established and thousands of the settlers can testify to the prompt assistance which is given them in the way of securing schools for their children. The Government is keenly alive to the necessity of providing a first class system of elementary education for all the children of the province, and with this object in view many important changes have recently been made in the regulations of the Department, the qualifications of teachers, text books, inspection, normal training, etc.

FREE TEXT BOOKS.

For years under the administration of the Haultain Government, the people of Alberta and Saskatchewan were compelled to pay enormous profits to publishers for school readers. A set of cheap, loosely-bound, out-of-date books that should have been kicked out of our schools long ago were foisted on the public. According to the sworn statement of the publishers, they cost to manufacture 40 cents and they were sold to pupils for \$1.15, a profit of no less than 187½%. This was the Haultain School book policy. Poor books—and fat profits—and the people paid the piper. What did Mr. Haultain care? To him it was a matter of indifference.

The present Minister of Education is cast in a different mould. He is a keen business man, ever on the alert to protect the people from being fleeced, and at the same time he has an eye to everything that will tend to the improvement of our educational system. Shortly after taking office he determined that the old readers, which were first published about twenty-five years ago and which everybody condemned, should go. To-day they are in the rubbish heap and the children of the province have in their hands instead the best set of readers in Canada. But, best of all, these readers do not cost the children or trustee boards one cent. As the Government is expending every year about \$300,000 on education, it wisely came to the conclusion that it could well afford to buy books in large quantities from the publishers at wholesale prices and distribute them free. In this way the parents of Saskatchewan will be saved thousands upon thousands of dollars which would otherwise go into the publishers' pockets.

The contract made by the Government with Morang for the publication of readers was fiercely attacked by Haultain. He stood up in the Assembly as the champion of the Canada Publishing Company, one of Morang's competitors. This company was one of the chief sinners in the notorious Text Book Ring, a combination that robbed the people of Ontario of hundreds of thousands of dollars. So notorious and scandalous were their dealings that the Ontario Government appointed a Commission to inquire into their nefarious work. Then the whole truth came out and the company stood exposed before the people of Canada in their true light. In the face of these facts Haultain had the hardihood to champion their cause against the Morang contract. But then it must be remembered that it was the same company, the self-same Text Book Ring, which Haultain had permitted to dump their school book rubbish on Western Canada at fabulous profits for a score or more of years. The people may and will draw their own conclusions.

As for the contract which the Government made, it was conclusively proved that no better contract was ever made by any Government in Canada. Haultain asserted that the opposite was the case but he never produced any other contract or uttered one word about any other contract. As regards prices it was demonstrated beyond question that the publishers' profits could not exceed 15%. Morang's quotations for the cost of manufacture were on the table of the House for weeks and no attempt whatever was made to disprove his figures. Haultain had stated that the contract was improvident and profligate but he did not produce a single jot of evidence. He floundered and sputtered and lost himself entirely in a maze of erroneous figures which had been placed in his hands, but which he himself did not understand. On the other hand, Mr. Calder had dealt with the whole subject in one of the most masterful speeches ever delivered in the Legislature. He went to the real heart of the question when he pointed out that what the people of Saskatchewan demanded was good books—the best that could be produced. He conclusively proved that the value of a text book depended upon the quantity of material which it contained, the class of paper used, the printing, especially the binding and generally the mechanical make-up of the book. He then showed that the new Alexandra Readers were in this respect far superior to any of the other books submitted. The quoted cost of the Canada Publishing Company's series was 57 cents, and of the Morang series 76 cents, a difference of only 19 cents on five books. But in mechanical make up and general excellence in so far as durability is concerned there is as much difference between the two sets as there is between the sun and the moon. This difference is indicated by the difference in the cost of manufacture, a little under 4 cents per book, and as has already been said neither Mr. Haultain nor any of his followers made the slightest attempt to criticize or attack Morang's cost figures which had been submitted in the fullest detail.

Haultain's groundless attack on this contract and his mean, jealous, unwarranted attack on Mr. Calder will long stand to his discredit. His hopeless failure to make good his assertions and his uneasy squirmings under the relentless logic and forceful arguments of Premier Scott when he closed the debate will long be remembered by all who witnessed the close of the episode.

HIGHER EDUCATION

In providing for the creation of High Schools and the University of Saskatchewan, the Scott Government has fulfilled two of its pledges to the people. The Acts providing for these institutions are broad and comprehensive in their spirit. As an evidence of how these measures are viewed by those interested in the cause of education the following letter will serve as an illustration.

Rocanville, Sask., July 10, 1907.

HON. J. A. CALDER,
Minister of Education,
Regina, Sask.

Dear Sir,—

I am instructed by the Saskatchewan Conference of the Methodist Church to send you the following resolution passed at the session of the Conference recently held at Regina.

— "The Saskatchewan Conference of the Methodist Church regards with deep interest the provisions for Higher Education which the Legislature has resolved upon. We desire to express our appreciation of the broadmindedness and foresight of the Legislature in this regard, and would respectfully urge the establishment of a Provincial University at as early a date as possible."

Yours truly,

(Sgd) J. T. HARRISON,
Secretary of Conference.

It is quite unnecessary to dwell at any length upon the importance of providing the very best facilities for the higher education of our young men and women. Suffice it to say that the foundations of the necessary institutions have been laid broad and deep. Already some eight or nine High Schools and Collegiates have been organized throughout the Province. The University is also well in hand. The various controlling bodies have been elected and at present the Board of Governors are busily engaged with the serious and difficult problem of selecting a President. It is fully expected that the choice will be made within the course of a very few weeks and that the real work of University organization and construction will be proceeded with rapidly. The manner in which the solution of these two far reaching problems has been handled by the Government redounds greatly to their credit and gives ample evidence of the broadest statesmanship.

SOCIAL AND MORAL REFORM.

Though kept closely engaged upon a vast variety of immediately pressing material problems the Scott Government cannot be accused of neglecting those other problems which affect the social and moral welfare of the people. In 1908 a measure was adopted providing for societies of public-spirited men and women to carry on work under Government supervision similar to that done in older communities in the way of caring for neglected or dependent children. Young as is Saskatchewan and free from squalid poverty, there have already come to light a few cases showing the need of such attention.

In 1907 an important change was made in the Liquor License law by the substitution of a single strong Licensing Commission to have authority over the whole Province for the District Commissions theretofore acting. This change was made largely upon the recommendation of Dr. Chown, representing the Temperance and Moral Reform Association for Canada, who have urged the same reform in Ontario but so far without success. In 1908 the whole Liquor law was revised and strikingly improved. The scope and tendency of the new legislation are fairly well indicated by the following expressions of opinion upon it:—

Hon. F. W. G. Haultain speaking on the second reading of the Bill said in part: "The Government was taking the proper steps in imposing further restrictions on the liquor traffic. The bill was in the direction to which the whole sentiment of the whole civilized world had been pointing for the last century, a sentiment which no section of that House had any right to overlook or disregard."

At the meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, held in Winnipeg early in June last, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"General Assembly is rejoiced to learn of the action of the Saskatchewan Legislature is now taking in granting to municipalities the right of local veto on a simple majority vote, shortening the hours of sale, closing the bars on public holidays, doing away with the Club liquor licenses and other advanced provisions for the restriction of the liquor traffic."

At the Conference of the Methodist Church of Saskatchewan, held in Saskatoon 5th June, 1908, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"Saskatchewan Methodist Conference unanimously endorses clauses of the liquor license act re local option on majority vote, shorter hours and withdrawal of Club licenses and re holidays and other advanced provisions of the bill."

ELECTION PURITY.

Mr. Scott and his Government are determined that the provincial elections of Saskatchewan shall be run on pure lines. There is nothing that can hurt a Government more or do a political party more harm than to have election officials act contrary to law. In the case of the last provincial election three or four officers in the district of Prince Albert County openly and flagrantly disregarded their plain duty. As a result of their actions the whole Liberal party of Saskatchewan were held responsible by Haultain and his followers. Needless to say, however, the Government had absolutely no knowledge of what had been done until after the election. Party parties had been

tried and punished. More than that the Liberal candidate who had been declared elected immediately resigned. Owing, however, to his opponent having lodged a protest his resignation could not take effect as the law provided against it. In due course the protest was set aside by the courts and then Mr. Donaldson, the Conservative candidate, petitioned the Legislative Assembly to be declared elected. The whole matter was carefully considered by the Committee on Privileges and Elections and in the course of a very few days brought in a report awarding the seat to Mr. Donaldson. Never before in the history of any political party in Canada has a Government in office taken similar action. The rule has always been to set aside the petition or declare for a new election. The Scott Government, however, and the Liberal party in Saskatchewan believe in the principles of equity and justice, and the action of the Liberals in the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan in handing over to Mr. Donaldson the seat he had won will ever stand to their credit. The Prince Albert episode is now a closed chapter in our political history. For years under Tory rule there had been all kinds of wrong-doing at the time of elections in the far northern part of the province. In the old days time and time again had Conservative party heelers and crooks been guilty of identical irregularities. However the end has come. Hereafter it will be a dangerous matter for any election official to interfere in any way with the franchise.

Regarding the Assembly's action in seating Mr. Donaldson the Regina Standard said: "The Legislative Assembly made history yesterday when 'they declared Samuel James Donaldson to be duly elected representative 'of Prince Albert District in the House.' The procedure was the first of its 'kind in the history of the British Empire. The moment the suspense was 'over the members cheered and there was a general expression of enthusiasm."

And on the Report Mr. Haultain used the following words in the House: "He looked upon it as a moment of gratification. Every member must look 'upon it as an act of justice. He was very glad to think that the last phase 'of what had been a very unpleasant incident in the provincial history had 'given an opportunity for a display of that feeling of justice and fair play 'which he believed, in spite of party diversity and provincial diversity, will 'always indicate that this was done in the cause of fair play and manliness 'common to us all."

Saskatchewan to-day can boast of the best election law in Canada. The old Haultain law which was open to very many abuses has been swept away. At the recent session of the Legislature a new law complete in every detail was introduced by the Hon. Mr. Turgeon, Attorney General, and is now on our statute books. In order that the people of the province may understand

how the measure was viewed by Mr. Haultain and his followers it is only necessary to quote a few words from his speech on the second reading of the Bill. He said: "Mr. Haultain agreed that there was need of a new election law. The old system was suited to a sparsely settled country without money to provide machinery for other than the simplest law. Those conditions were past, and the old system was no longer applicable. The Bill dealt in a broad and effective way with the many problems involved in an election law, and he complimented Attorney General Turgeon on his preparation of the Bill." "I think," he said, "the Government have dealt with this important matter in a broad and effective way, and I congratulate the Attorney-General and accord him all praise for the work he has done in preparing this Act."

The provisions of the new election Act are simple and complete. The probability of election crookedness is reduced to a minimum. Heavy penalties both by fine and imprisonment are provided for every conceivable kind of wrong doing. The Opposition had scarcely an amendment to suggest to the Bill as it was introduced by the Government. Every member of the House agreed that the new Act was as perfect as it could be made and the Attorney General was very generally congratulated on the broad and comprehensive manner in which he had dealt with an exceedingly intricate and usually factious problem. The result will be that hereafter in the province of Saskatchewan the electors may confidently look forward to clean, pure elections. The old Haultain law with its wide-open possibilities for wrong doing has been swept out of existence and to-day the Scott Government stands pledged to protect in every possible way the sacred privileges of the ballot.

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE.

A fast growing Province of necessity must have growth in its chief governing body. Students of affairs have recognized that an Assembly of 25 Members in this province is too small for its highly important functions. The territory represented by individual members is too large to permit them to keep properly in touch with their constituents. In the House itself, after providing the Speaker and Deputy Speaker and the four Cabinet members, the membership is too small to admit of any serviceable organization of committees and division of work. But the point does not need to be argued. Everybody was agreed that a larger representation was needed and provision therefor was undertaken at the last session.

Never has a Redistribution been made anywhere in Canada without the majority being charged with unfairness and rarely was the charge urged without cause. In 1882 the Tories at Ottawa made what the rankest Tory alive to-day readily admits to have been a rascally gerrymander. The pre-

sent Minister of Customs' historic question on that occasion—"Who struck Billy Paterson?"—is still remembered. The old plan was for the Government to cut and dry its scheme, present it to the House and use its majority to force it through. Sir Wilfrid Laurier in 1903 set a precedent by appointing a Committee, on which both parties had members, to make the new map. But he failed to please the Opposition in all respects and the cry of "gerrymander" was heard. This year in Ontario, the Conservative Premier, Mr. Whitney, in his Redistribution did not escape accusations of unfairness even from some of the Conservative press.

It will stand to the lasting credit of this Province and to the equally lasting credit of the Scott Government that the first Redistribution made by the Saskatchewan Assembly is such as to receive the unanimous approval of both parties. Premier Scott moved for a Select Committee of five composed of Messrs. Haultain, Sheppard, Ens, Gillis and the mover. The scheme finally adopted provides for 41 seats. It was unanimously recommended to the House by the Committee and carried through the House virtually without complaint. The spirit animating the Government in the whole matter may be gathered from the remarks made by the leader of the Opposition in the House upon the Committee's report when he said: "The leader of the House had referred to the harmonious nature of the work of the Redistribution Committee. There was no question that in the Committee there was little jarring. His side had been given every opportunity, the fullest opportunity of making any proposition they wished; and he (Mr. Haultain) was willing and glad to pay a tribute to the patience and forbearance of the majority in the Committee in that respect. They were always allowed to make representations and they had availed themselves to the utmost of the privilege. . . . Referring to the question of certain old-established divisions which had been re-cast, he acquitted Mr. Scott of any intention of aiming at any of the three Hon. Members who were grouped together in the recasting unfortunately in a political sense—fortunately for themselves in every other sense,—and he accepted Mr. Scott's statement that it was with regret that such was done. He had no intention of using the term gerrymander on this occasion. With regard to the compromise in connection with the seats of "Moose Mountain" and "Pipestone" he should be sorry if any attempt were made to make any political capital against the Government or against any one else with regard to this reasonable compromise."

PROTECTION OF LABOR INTERESTS.

Early in its career the Scott Government interested itself in the welfare of the artisan and laborer of the province. In the very first session of the Assembly the Attorney General introduced and carried through a mechanics'

lien law that is admittedly a vast improvement on the old Haultain statute. Two other laws of a somewhat similar character were dealt with at the recent session of the House. These relate to Woodmen's Liens and Threshers' Liens. At the next session it is proposed to make ample provision for the protection of Threshermen who are employed by machine operators. These various measures go to show the practical sympathy of the Government with the cause of labor. In all Government contracts provision is made for the payment of fair wages to all persons employed on the Government works. In the construction of buildings and large bridges Canadian materials are used as far as is practicable and contractors are required to employ local labor if it is available. It may also be pointed out that the Government has at present under consideration the appointment of a Fair Wage Officer whose duty it will be to see that men working on all Government contracts are paid the wages they are entitled to. In these various ways our artisans and mechanics are protected and assisted and they may depend upon Mr. Scott to further their interests in every legitimate way.

EQUALIZING TAXATION.

Taxation lies at the very root of government, and upon this question practically every problem in government depends in some degree and more or less directly. Political policies have countless names and divers phases; but the cardinal difference between all policies and dividing political parties is always based on the question of taxation. Such has been true since civilized government began and will doubtless remain true for generations to come.

True to Liberal principles, the Saskatchewan Liberal Government have made constant progress towards equalizing taxation. The Supplementary Revenue Act was a long step in this direction by compelling all taxable lands to assist in carrying the load of taxation instead of leaving the lands within organized rural school districts to carry all the load. The Corporation Tax Act and the Act taxing the income of all Railway Companies were both distinct advances in the same direction. At the last session another reform was made by reducing the period within which non-residents and companies may postpone payment of local improvement and school taxes. Hitherto the Government could take action to enforce payment by beginning confiscation proceedings only after there were taxes in arrears two years. This two years' protection period is now abolished and action can be taken at the end of the first year of non-payment. The Government has also persistently pressed on the Interior Department at Ottawa the question of patenting all companies' land grants so as to bring these lands under taxation, with the result that about the only lands of this class now remaining unpatented is the por-

tion of the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway Company's grant, which the Dominion Government retains as security for the cash refund to be made by that Company at the end of twenty years of the unearned balance of the \$80,000 annual grant made to it for carrying mails, etc. Even these reserved lands are being gradually brought under taxation by the action of Hon. Frank Oliver in allowing a company called the Saskatoon & Western Land Company to dispose of the lands under a bargain by which as each quarter section is sold, its calculated proportion of the refund is paid to the Government. Thus the unjust effects of the many unwise contracts made by the Conservative Government prior to 1896, and by which millions of acres of lands were alienated to corporations, and made exempt from taxation, are slowly but surely,—always with difficulties which have required years of patient and incessant effort to overcome,—being removed and the Liberal principle of equalized taxation is being applied. If Liberal administration is maintained, the only lands remaining untaxable will in a very short time be those owned by the C. P. R. Company under its 20 years' exemption right. And to finally obtain the rightful meaning of the 20 years' exemption clause of the C. P. R. contract, the Scott Government in conjunction with the Rutherford Government is preparing a test case to be carried to the Privy Council.

The Scott Government will continue to work towards the equalization of taxation.

CONTROL OF INTERIOR ELEVATORS.

This is a new problem that has recently arisen. It was first officially brought to the attention of Mr. Scott and his Government during the last session of the Assembly. The farmers of Saskatchewan through their Grain Growers' Association have expressed the belief that they will be more successful in marketing their grain and will secure better prices if the Governments of the three prairie Provinces can join in a scheme to construct, own and operate a line of special-bin elevators at all initial shipping points, and thus exercise a measure of much desired control over all the privately owned and operated interior elevators. That this is a large problem and one that will demand for its solution the very best talent and judgment that can be brought to bear on it is universally admitted. The farmers of Saskatchewan may rest assured that Mr. Scott and his Government are keenly alive to their interests and that this all important question will receive their very closest attention. A first conference between the Premiers of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta was held on May 4th at Regina, following which a meeting took place of the Grain Growers' Joint Executive for the three Provinces at which further representations were agreed upon to place before the three Governments. Upon receipt of these Mr. Scott called a meeting for June 29th to be attended by Premiers Roblin and Rutherford and the Grain

Growers' Executive. Owing to Mr. Roblin's absence the date had to be postponed and further delay has been caused by the calling to Ottawa of members of the Grain Growers, but the conference will be held at the earliest date convenient for all parties. As a result of the joint deliberations of the Grain Growers and the heads of the three Governments it is to be expected that a practicable and effective solution of the existing difficulties which confront the farmers in the marketing of their grain will be found and adopted.

The old timers of Saskatchewan well remember that until the Liberal Party got into power at Ottawa in 1896 the farmers were completely in the hands of a huge monopoly. The railway companies and the elevator companies were simply grinding the farmers to death and robbing them right and left. Since 1896, however, there has been a great change. The principles of Liberalism and reform have been applied. Scores of abuses have been swept away. Stringent laws have been adopted to protect the grain producer. At the present session of the Dominion Parliament existing laws are being further amended to give additional protection and to right existing wrongs. The whole history of the grain trade points to the fact that if our agriculturists are to receive their full measure of protection against trusts, combines and monopolies they must look to the Liberal Party which has always stood true and firm in the interests of the masses as against the classes.

WHAT HAS THE SCOTT GOVERNMENT DONE?

1. It has organized and re-constructed the whole machinery of provincial government and has brought about an efficient, prompt administration of public affairs.
2. It has expended in three years more than four millions of dollars and there has not been a single charge of mismanagement or misappropriation of public funds.
3. It took part in the Inter-Provincial Conference of 1906 and as a result the revenues of the province were immediately increased \$130,000 per annum.
4. It has placed on the Statute Books of the province an Act compelling speculators, non-residents, and large land companies to contribute a tax to the educational institutions of Saskatchewan.
5. It has passed an Act compelling all banks, insurance companies, loan companies, express and telegraph companies and other financial corporations to contribute a tax towards the cost of administration of public affairs.
6. It has taken steps to compel all railway companies to pay a just and reasonable tax to the general revenue of the Province.
7. It has in the interests of the mechanic, the artisan and the labourer enacted proper laws relating to Woodmen's, Threshers', and Mechanics' Liens.
8. It has given increased assistance and encouragement to every branch of the agricultural industries of the province.
9. It has adopted a sound policy of constructing and maintaining an extensive system of main highways throughout the province, and in 1907 expended on roads and small bridges \$562,000.00.
10. It has aided and encouraged the organization of upwards of 750 rural school districts and provided liberal grants for the same.
11. It has re-organized and re-constructed the judicial system of the province thereby establishing the Courts of Saskatchewan on a permanent and satisfactory basis.
12. It has made ample and satisfactory provision for secondary and higher education by providing for the organization of High Schools, Collegiate Institutes and the University of Saskatchewan.

13. It has constructed two magnificent steel bridges over the Saskatchewan River at Saskatoon and Battleford and has arranged for the erection of a third at Prince Albert.
14. It has adopted a progressive policy for the erection of necessary public institutions and buildings throughout the province.
15. It has carried out so carefully and well as to compel universal approval all the preliminary steps for the provision of Legislative and Departmental Buildings at the capital; and the firm of P. Lyall & Sons, second to none in the building trade in Canada, have begun construction under a contract price \$94,110 below the Architect's estimated cost of a structure which will be the pride and boast of the Province for generations to come.
16. It has grappled with and handled satisfactorily two serious situations which arose in the Province, namely, those relating to the fuel famine in 1906 and seed grain in the present year.
17. It appointed a Commission to inquire into the whole problem of municipal institutions with the result that the cities, towns and villages laws have been carefully revised and an Act providing a simple yet efficient Rural Municipal system has been drafted and will be enacted at the next session of the Legislature.
18. It has doubled the assistance formerly given to Hospitals.
19. It has placed the granting of Liquor Licenses in the hands of one Board of Commissioners thereby ensuring greater uniformity and a better administration of the law, and has made a notable general advance in legislation for better regulation of the liquor traffic.
20. It has decentralized the administration of the Land Titles system by providing for new offices at Yorkton, Moose Jaw and Saskatoon.
21. It instituted a thorough and exhaustive inquiry into the telephone problem and has adopted a policy of constructing, aiding and controlling all telephone lines within the province.
22. It has adopted a policy of Free Text Books and is providing the school children of this province with the best modern readers free of cost.
23. It has made a Redistribution of Seats so fair and equitable that the scheme was unanimously approved by both parties in the Assembly.
24. It has provided a new Election system also so fair and so carefully framed as to compel the approval of all parties.
25. It has not failed in any single promise made to the People of Saskatchewan, but has been true to its policy of "Peace and Progress."

VOTE FOR LIBERAL CANDIDATES

BECAUSE THEY STAND FOR

Railway Extension and Railway Competition.

Taxing Speculators and Corporations.

The Protection of Labor.

BECAUSE THEY STAND FOR

Liberal Aid to Rural Telephone Companies.

Increased Assistance to Agriculture

Good Roads and Bridges.

BECAUSE THEY STAND FOR

A Safe, Sound, Progressive Administration.

Good School Books and Free Readers.

Moral and Social Reform.

BECAUSE THEY STAND FOR

An Agricultural College for Farmers' Sons.

The Improvement of the Grain Trade.

Purity in Elections.

and

TRUTH AND FAIR DEALING.